

WASHINGTON.

The Ku Klux Reports in the House.

WADE HAMPTON AND HIS SYMPATHIES.

The Tariff, the Deficiencies and the Income Tax.

FORNEY'S PROSPECTS IN THE CABINET.

CONFIRMATION OF CHARLES HALE.

The Philadelphia and Savannah Collectorships.

SETH JOHNSON SENTENCED.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19, 1872. The Custom House Investigating Committee—No Quorum.

To-day was assigned for the meeting of the New York Custom House Investigating Committee, but no quorum was present. Senator Buckingham is at home sick. Senator Howe is convalescent from scarlatina, and Senator Stewart is in Nevada. Those present adjourned until next Monday, unless sooner convened by the Chairman.

The Tariff and Ku Klux Reports in the House.

The tariff debate in the House to-day is generally regarded as settling the fate of most of the measures for a radical alteration of the duties on imports. Mr. Dawes, who is never quite pleasant when addressing the House, got unusually irritable over the efforts of individual members to dictate the reports of his committee, and was not at all mollified by the votes on Hale's defeated tariff and coal resolution, and Mercur's successful bill to repeal the duty on tea and coffee. After Mr. Frye's Civil Rights bill had been put over till next Monday by the democratic tactics a violent scene followed on the reading of the minority report on the Ku Klux investigation. The majority of the committee, represented by Mr. Pollock, of Vermont, and Mr. Scofield, of Pennsylvania, were so skillfully championed in the debate as to gain what was on all hands acknowledged to be a substantial victory. The four democratic giants—Berk, Kerr, Morgan and Niblack—seemed so possessed with blind rage that nothing like justice was done by them to their side of the controversy. When the tumult had measurably subsided, Messrs. Cox, of New York, and Banks, of Massachusetts, in some sensible remarks, carried a proposition to print the minority report, phrased in its unparliamentary language.

Not in sympathy with Ku Klux. Wade Hampton, M. C. Butler and Mr. Kernshaw, of South Carolina, have reached Washington to ask for a hearing before the Ku Klux Committee to defend themselves against the charge made in the Senate that they were in active sympathy with Ku Klux in that State.

The Postmaster Generalship—Forney to Succeed Cresswell.

There is no longer room to doubt that important changes will soon be made in the Cabinet. Mr. Cresswell is to give place to some one who, while personally no more acceptable to the President, will bring to the administration that support which he does not command, and it is understood that John W. Forney will be Postmaster General—a position which he has long desired. However much he may desire to retire to the care of his present duties he will be solicited to accept the portfolio of the Post Office Department.

The New Assistant Secretary of State.

The confirmation of Charles Hale as Assistant Secretary of State, by the Senate, is regarded here as a triumph for the administration and is the theme of conversation in political circles to-night. Mr. Hale will enter upon his duties to-morrow.

The Income Tax.

The Committee of Ways and Means had the long session to-day, at which the question of the repeal of the income tax was discussed at length and a decision reached to recommend to the House that it not be repealed. The prevailing argument at the meeting was that the repeal of the duty on tea and coffee was a fair offset to a tax that reached many who would otherwise escape their share of the burdens of taxation. It is not believed that the income tax repeal has many chances of success against the report of the committee.

Furling the Deficiencies Forward.

At the session of the House Committee on Appropriations this morning it was decided to take up the Deficiency bill, out of its regular order, and put it at once upon its passage. This is rendered necessary on account of the longer number of appropriations that have run out, leaving several of the departments without the means to pay some classes of their employees or pay some portion of their current expense.

The Homestead and Geysersland Park Bills.

The Committee on Public Lands or the House had a meeting this morning for the discussion of the Homestead bill and heard the argument of Mr. Laughlin, of California, in favor of the rights of actual settlers. It also decided to report in favor of the bill to set apart as a public park forty miles of territory at the head of the Yellowstone River.

New Post Offices.

The Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, at their meeting this morning, decided to report in favor of the new government building for Post Office, at Albany, N. Y., at a cost of \$350,000; also a similar one at Hartford, Conn., at a cost of \$300,000, and another at Indianapolis, Ind. It also agreed to recommend the purchase of a site for a similar building at Cincinnati.

Civil Service Reform.

The House Committee on the reorganization of the civil service of the United States agreed to-day to report a bill to preserve the freedom of the several departments of the government and to ask the House to assign a day for its consideration. The bill makes it a penal offense for a member of Congress to ask for a civil appointment, and provides that they can make recommendations only when requested to do so in writing.

The Iron Horse for the Hunting Grounds.

The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs had before them for consideration to-day a bill for the right of way for a railroad from Shreveport, through the Choctaw and Chickasaw reservations, in the Indian Territory, in the direction of Santa Fe.

International Copyright.

The Joint Committee on the Library met this morning and had under consideration among themselves the questions concerning the proposed International Copyright law, but reached no conclusion.

The Senate Sergeant-at-Arms.

A Republican Senatorial caucus will be called this week, at which an effort that promises to be successful will be made to cut the Sergeant-at-Arms, John R. French, ex-Congressman from North Carolina. There has been a constantly growing dissatisfaction with Sergeant French, for a year past at least, both with the Senators and the employees of the Senate who are under his charge.

Rice Culture and the Rice Duty.

The efforts of the rice trade of New York, Boston and Baltimore for a repeal of the duty on that article are not likely to meet with much success. The Senate Committee on Finance will not go further than a reduction of twenty-five per cent on the present tariff rate, and the committee are very doubtful about recommending that. But the Tariff Committee of Congress have been patiently going into the

subject of rice culture in Georgia and South Carolina, and their conclusions seem to be that the duty is no higher at present than is necessary to sustain the home market. Though a reduction will be possible in three or four years, the plantations which cannot be used for other purposes than rice culture suffered great depletion of material and machinery during the war, and have been in great part restored by the aid of Northern capital. It is alleged that the culture gives a good support to at least 50,000 negro families, and that when the cultivation is extended to its full capacity not less than 70,000 such families will be supported by it.

The Philadelphia Collectorship.

A delegation, consisting of about a dozen prominent business men of Philadelphia, all of whom were volunteers in the army during the late war, called at the White House and interviewed the President to-day in the interest of David Houston, the present Deputy Collector of Customs, for succession to the Collectorship in that city. The delegation also called on the Secretaries of War, the Treasury and the Navy; also on Commissioner Longfellow, Vice President Colfax and the Pennsylvania delegation in Congress, relative to the same matter. General Warner, of Philadelphia, was their spokesman.

The Savannah Collectorship.

The fight over the Collectorship of the Port of Savannah has broken out again, Secretary Boutwell this time taking the lead against Robb, the present incumbent, in favor of the brother of Mr. R. S. Hale, American agent before the British Chamber of Commerce at Washington, and a close and influential friend of Mr. Boutwell. The new candidate is a special agent of the Treasury Department, and has been for about a year on duty at Savannah. Collector Robb and Special Agent Hale are both in Washington, the former on official business and the latter for the purpose of forwarding his interests with the Secretary of the Treasury and insuring his confirmation by the Senate, if nominated. Each gives a very gloomy account of the state of the republican party in and about Savannah, consequent upon the war of the factions that has now been raging for a considerable time.

Johnston, the Treasury Clerk, Sentenced.

Several days ago Seth Johnson, formerly clerk in the Treasury Department, charged with embezzlement of government funds, was supposed to have been acquitted, he having testified before a committee of Congress, and thus, under the law of 1867, escaped prosecution. But it was subsequently discovered that in 1862 the law was amended, and as Judge Carter said to-day, the repealing statute appeared to have been passed for the purpose of preventing a witness' testimony before a committee from being used against him in a criminal prosecution. It qualified the effect upon the witness, but did not nullify the prosecution. He therefore held that there having been no conclusive acquittal, the accused would be held for trial. Johnson, at the instance of his counsel, then pleaded guilty to the indictment. His counsel made a few remarks in extenuation of the offence. Judge Carter said the accused had borne a good character, especially in the eyes of his superiors at the Treasury Department, the head of his bureau having as much confidence in him as in his son. If it was not for the public consequences he would make the penalty different; but he was obliged to look at the effect it would have on public morals and the public service. He had failed to find any other feature in the investigation of this case than weakness. He would impose a sentence of imprisonment in the jail for one year, and the prisoner to pay the amount embezzled, namely \$40,000.

Belgian Ships and Tonnage Dues.

The Secretary of the Treasury has decided that the Convention with Belgium of 1868, must be carried out, and that the vessels of that government from the payment of tonnage dues when sailing directly between Belgium and the United States at stated times; or, in other words, forming part of a regular line between the countries mentioned. Vessels of the United States are subject to the payment once a year of a heavy tonnage tax, and the exemption of Belgian vessels is likely to lead to dissatisfaction on the part of American owners, and probably to additional legislation on the subject.

Confiscated Navy Tobacco.

The Secretary of the Treasury writes to the Paymaster General of the Navy, in reference to the proposed sale of certain confiscated tobacco, that if sold, stamps must be affixed to it, as with the thirty-two other individuals. It is not worth the thirty-two cents per pound duty he would advise that the tobacco be destroyed.

Fugitive Beauties.

It appears from the records of the Register of the Treasury that the bounties formerly paid to the cod fishing interest during the last three years it was granted—namely, 1868, 1869 and 1870—amounted to an average of \$383,000 per annum. The privilege of withdrawing said free of duty, which was substituted for the bounties, has, during the past two years, amounted to only \$120,000 per annum, or only about one-third of the bounty.

Presidential Nomination.

The President to-day nominated to the Senate David C. Cox to be pension agent at Washington, D. C.

Senatorial Confirmations.

The Senate, in executive session to-day, confirmed the following nominations:—Charles Hale, of Massachusetts, to be Assistant Secretary of State; E. L. Deane, of Maine, to be Collector of Internal Revenue for the Fifth District of Texas; William F. Gilmore, receiver of public moneys at Chillicothe, Ohio. Also the following:—S. L. Lott, of Kentucky, to be Receiver of the Land Office at Booneville, N. J.; William L. Nigro, at Newnan, Ga.

THE NORTH CAROLINA BANDITS.

Lowry and His Gang Defy the State Government—Holding High Carnival at Moss Neck—The Next Man They Have Determined to Murder—Unparalleled Villany—Firing After a Train Leaving a Station.

MOSS BECK, Robeson county, N. C., Feb. 18, 1872. Henry Berry Lowry, the notorious outlaw, and his confederates, have been holding a carnival here for two days, sleeping at a store near the railroad station. When the down train for Wilmington arrived here to-day they had a barrel of oil rolled out of the store, and were treating a large crowd. They were particularly active in inviting the passengers out of the cars to drink, familiarly tapping several of them on the shoulders and shaking their hands. When Lowry was told that he had better keep a good lookout, and that one would kill him or some of the gang for the rewards offered by the way for a railroad from Shreveport, through the Choctaw and Chickasaw reservations, in the Indian Territory, in the direction of Santa Fe.

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SWINDLING.

Arrest of Two Women for Defrauding Shopkeepers.

How the Work Was Planned and Executed—Shadowing the Operators—The Furnished Room Dodge—Prepared for Escape in Men's Clothes—The Victim's Firms.

Two women, named Eva St. Valerie, alias Le Sage, and Libbie Davis, were arrested on Sunday evening by Detectives Woodbridge and Lilly. These women have been going around among the different stores in the city for the past three months buying goods, ordering them to be sent to a certain residence and, when the property was delivered there, disappearing with it. They were usually assisted by a man, who is not yet, however, in the hands of the police, although there is little doubt that he soon will be, as he is known. This man generally laid the plan of

the intended swindle. From one of the morning papers he would select a house that advertised furnished rooms, and going to the place in the course of the day, he would hire rooms for two ladies, and then inform them of the locality of their new residence. The next thing to settle would be the store that should furnish the material, and in the course of a stroll through the principal thoroughfares this was decided upon. As soon as everything was in order the ladies, or sometimes only one, went into the store and purchased a quantity of goods, invariably laces or such light, valuable materials as could be easily disposed of, and gave directions to the person from whom the purchase was made to send them to the house, giving the address. When the goods were bought, went to the house with the articles, one of the ladies would receive him in the parlor politely, ask him to wait a moment while she was showing the merchandise to her sister or husband, and

then taking the goods from the unsuspecting messenger the ladies would disappear from the house with the booty and leave the porter afloat his expectations at the store in the parlor. It was only when the amounts of the purchases were being made that the women engaged in it; but when they intended to go largely into the business one remained at the house and the other went to the store where the purchases were to be made. For months past these parties have been carrying on this trade in the city, but Mrs. St. Valerie is an old hand, and has been operating for years in almost all the principal cities in the country. In Boston, Philadelphia, Cincinnati and Chicago she is well known, and has no doubt appropriated a large quantity of property in those places. The workings of the trio in New York first became known to the police here through the medium of the merchants and shopkeepers who had suffered from the visits of St. Valerie & Co. Day after day for some time past gentlemen have been calling upon Captain Irving,

at his detective office, complaining of the swindling assistance of the police in bringing the thieves to justice and saving other people. Captain Irving detailed two officers to look after the movements of the swindlers, but they turned out to be too watchful and clever to provoke an easy detection. Complaints from the police, however, were not enough to have continued their work with unabated ardor, and Superintendent Kelso determined to put a stop to the swindling on his own hook. He was accordingly commissioned to look after the case, and for weeks they followed the footsteps of the parties all over the city, without any success. It was not until they were in the city of New York that they were able to get a clue. The detectives had exact descriptions of the women, and were in every way prepared to pounce upon them when they were seen. They were received at the door by the landlady, Mrs. Fash, whom they asked if she had any furnished rooms to let. The lady, in answer, said that she had, and that she would show them. They followed her to the rear of the house, and at that moment the youngest of the ladies put her hand incautiously out at her door, and Detective Woodbridge whispered to his companion, "Detective McCord immediately stepped into the room and put the young lady, Libbie Davis, under arrest. Woodbridge then followed her to the door, where the other woman was, but the mistress of the mansion pretended to have no knowledge of her. Woodbridge then followed her to the door, where the other woman was, but the mistress of the mansion pretended to have no knowledge of her. Woodbridge then followed her to the door, where the other woman was, but the mistress of the mansion pretended to have no knowledge of her.

and one of them, Mr. McCord, was left to watch the place, while his companion, Mr. Woodbridge, went away to make preparations for the reception of the swindlers. The police, however, were not to be deceived. They were waiting for the ladies to return, and when they did so they were arrested. The ladies were taken to the police station, and the case was committed to the Grand Jury.

THE GRAND JURY.

The Grand Jury, which met to-day, heard the case of the two women. The evidence was taken from the testimony of the police officers and the landlady. The Grand Jury found the women guilty of defrauding shopkeepers, and sentenced them to the State Prison for two years.

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STOKES' GRAND JURY.

Judge Barbour, Judge Bedford and County Clerk Loew on the Stand.

Another Field Day of Legal Procrastination.

The scene in the Oyer and Terminer Court yesterday morning was a repetition of what has taken place every morning since the opening of these proceedings. There was the usual crowd awaiting the opening of the doors, and the same order in knowing the early arrivals to their seats.

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THE COURTS.

The Jewel Estate Controversy—Alleged Customs Fraud—Executions Against the City—Action Against an Ex-Sheriff—Alimony Denied in a Divorce Suit—A City Railroad Company in Court—Business in the Court of General Sessions.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT.

The Jewel Estate. Before Judge Shipman. Testimony was yesterday given for the defense showing that Madame Jewel, in making a contract of marriage between her granddaughters—daughters of Mr. Nelson Chase and Mr. Perry, agreed to leave half of her property to said granddaughters and the other half to her grandnephew, the brother of Mr. Perry. The object of the evidence was to show that Madame Jewel did not receive the plaintiff in this suit, D. W. Bowen, as a party to whom she desired or was entitled to leave any of her property, and showed her disposition to leave her property as claimed by the defense, to the children of Mr. Chase, he holding it intact for them. The case will be resumed this morning at the same hour.

UNITED STATES COMMISSIONER'S COURT.

Alleged Customs Fraud. Before Commissioner Seida. W. G. Pollock, who gave bail recently before Commissioner Bette to answer a charge of smuggling linen goods, etc., into this port by means of fraudulent invoices and entries, has been again arrested on a similar charge. The warrant of arrest is based upon a statement made by Special Treasury Agent Chalkley, and recites that Pollock, on the 24 of January last, smuggled \$3,500 worth of linen goods into this port on the steamer *Albatross* by means of fraudulent invoices and entries. The goods were valued at \$500, but were actually worth \$3,500. The affidavit further recites that the importation was made in the name of one David Pollock, who was the real owner, and that he had paid his freight and took possession of them on their arrival. He gave no receipt for them.

Alleged Embezzlement of Letters.

James T. Brady, a Post Office clerk, was brought up for examination on a charge of embezzling letters containing articles of value. He was admitted to bail in \$3,000.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS.

Executions Against the City. Before Judge Barnard.

Winch vs. The Mayor, &c.—The plaintiff obtained a judgment against the city, and an execution was issued in the usual way. Payment being refused, motion was made to compel the same. Mr. Lean, on behalf of the city, urged that, according to the charter, the city was not liable for such cases as give the Comptroller ten days' notice. The Court so ordered, and denied the motion.

Nichols et al. vs. Newkirk.—Motion granted.

Stret et al. vs. First Universalist Society.—Same. Nichols et al. vs. Jones et al.—Judgment granted.

In the Matter of the Petition of Eliza J. Long et al.—Report confirmed and order granted.

SUPREME COURT—TRIAL TERM—PART I.

A Married Woman Looking After Her Property Interests. Before Judge Van Brunt.

Sarah P. Van Hise vs. James O'Brien, Sheriff.—The plaintiff sues to recover the value of a truck and two horses seized by the defendant in February, 1870, upon an execution. The defendant insists himself on the ground that the execution was against the plaintiff's husband. On the plaintiff's side, her own husband testified that she bought the property in question in 1864 with her own money, the proceeds of her own earnings, and that her husband conducted the business and gave her weekly for the proceeds. It was shown that the husband required and that the bills were charged to him. Mr. Turner, the judgment creditor, denies that Mr. Van Hise told him that the property belonged to him. There was no evidence showing that the plaintiff knew her husband conducting the business in his own name. A sealed verdict was returned.

Decision.

Hidreth vs. Shepard et al.—Motion granted upon defendant's giving security for the return of the any judgment obtained in this action and upon payment of \$250 costs.

SUPERIOR COURT—SPECIAL TERM.

Alimony